

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

NL2004/000900

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 G03F9/00

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 7 G03F G01B H01L

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ, INSPEC, IBM-TDB

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	<p>EP 1 253 471 A (ASML US INC) 30 October 2002 (2002-10-30)</p> <p>paragraphs '0010! - '0012! paragraphs '0031!, '0039!, '0041! paragraphs '0046! - '0048! paragraphs '0051!, '0055!, '0056!, '0059! paragraphs '0061! - '0063! figures 2,3a,3b,4</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-/-</p>	<p>1,2,4,5, 7-9, 12-14, 16-19, 23-26, 28,29, 31,32, 35-46,49</p>

Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

T later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

X document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

Y document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

& document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

11 March 2005

Date of mailing of the international search report

01/04/2005

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Menck, A

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

stional Application No
NL2004/000900

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 2003/218141 A1 (QUEENS RENE MARINUS GERARDUS J ET AL) 27 November 2003 (2003-11-27) abstract paragraphs '0052!, '0055! - '0057! claims 1,10,12	1,23-25
X	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 2000, no. 22, 9 March 2001 (2001-03-09) & JP 2001 143991 A (CANON INC), 25 May 2001 (2001-05-25) abstract paragraphs '0016!, '0018!, '0019!, '0029! - '0035! figure 3	1,2,4-9, 12,14, 16,23, 30,37
X	US 2002/018207 A1 (INA HIDEKI ET AL) 14 February 2002 (2002-02-14) abstract figure 1 paragraphs '0105!, '0106!, '0124!, '0125!	47,48, 50,51
X	EP 1 061 561 A (NIKON CORPORATION) 20 December 2000 (2000-12-20) column 7, lines 10-25 column 33, line 55 - column 34, line 16 column 34, lines 33-48	47,50,51

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

National Application No

NL2004/000900

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)			Publication date
EP 1253471	A 30-10-2002	US 2002158185 A1			31-10-2002
		EP 1253471 A2			30-10-2002
		JP 2003031493 A			31-01-2003
		TW 541593 B			11-07-2003
US 2003218141	A1 27-11-2003	CN 1453646 A			05-11-2003
		EP 1357435 A1			29-10-2003
		JP 2004006892 A			08-01-2004
		TW 594447 B			21-06-2004
		US 2005030507 A1			10-02-2005
JP 2001143991	A 25-05-2001	NONE			
US 2002018207	A1 14-02-2002	JP 2001345250 A			14-12-2001
EP 1061561	A 20-12-2000	AU 2549899 A			20-09-1999
		EP 1061561 A1			20-12-2000
		US 2002070355 A1			13-06-2002
		US 2003169411 A1			11-09-2003
		US 6406820 B1			18-06-2002
		WO 9945581 A1			10-09-1999